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EXAMINER

LIU, I JUNG

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3691

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/022,848

Applicant(s)

KADOWAKI ET AL.

Examiner

Marissa Liu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 April 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7 and 12 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-11 and 13-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-20 are presented for examination. Applicant filed an amendment on 4/19/2007 amending claims 1 and 14, canceling claims 7 and 12. In view of Applicant's amendment, the Examiner withdraws the grounds of rejections of claims 1-20 based on 35 USC 102. However, new grounds of rejection of claims 1-6, 8-11 and 13-20 necessitated by Applicant's amendment are established in the instant office action as set forth in detail below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 8 is rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112.

4. Claim 8 is dependent on claim 7. The applicant cancelled claim 7. Therefore, claim 8 is improper dependent claim. For the purpose of examining, the examiner lets claims 8 depend on claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-6, 8-11 and 13-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable by Modi, U.S. Patent Number: 6,241,244 (see PTO-892 reference B).

7. As per claim 1, Modi teaches an automated teller machine for performing a cash transaction, comprising:

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a currency deposit/withdraw port for depositing/withdrawing a currency (abstract; column 1, lines 18-19; column 2, lines 9-16);

a discriminating unit for discriminating a currency (abstract and column 1, lines 18-19; column 2, lines 18-53);

a plurality of cassettes each thereof detachably mounted with respect to said automated teller machine, for storing thereinto a currency, with the currency being transferred between a cassette and the currency deposit/withdrawal port via the discriminating units (abstract; column 1, lines 18-19; column 3, lines 55-67; column 4, lines 30-45); and

a control unit for storing thereinto operation information used to operate said automated teller machine in correspondence with a money sort of the currency stored in said which is set to said automated teller machine and for performing a control operation based upon said stored operation information, said stored operation information contains discrimination information indicative of a range of a currency which is discriminated by said discriminating unit wherein said control unit acquires money sort information from cassette information set which to said automated teller machine, and judges as to whether said money sort information of the acquired cassette information is located within a range of said discrimination information (column 3, lines 16-67; column 4-5; column 9, lines 43-64).

8. As per claim 2, Modi teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 1 described above. Modi further teaches said control unit sets, or changes said operation information stored in said control unit (column 34, lines 40-50; column 9, lines 43-64).

9. As per claim 3, Modi teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 2 described above. Modi further teaches said automated teller machine is comprised of:

a staff member panel for display thereon, which is operated by a staff (Fig. 1; column 9 lines 1-19; column 18, lines 55-66); and said control unit sets, or changes said operation information by using said staff member panel (Fig. 1; column 9 lines 1-19; column 18, lines 55-66).

10. As per claim 4, Modi teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 1 described above. Modi further teaches wherein:

said control unit acquires cassette information from said cassette which is set to said automated teller machine and judges as to whether or not said acquired cassette information is suitable for said stored operation information. (column 3, lines 16-67; column 4-5; column 9, lines 43-64).

11. As per claim 5, Modi teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 4 described above. Modi further teaches said control unit continuously performs the operation of said automated teller machine in the case that the judgment result is suitable for said operation information (column 3, lines 16-67; column 4-5; column 9, lines 43-64).

12. As per claim 6, Modi teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 4 described above. Modi further teaches wherein: in the case that the judgment result is not suitable for said operation information, said control unit notifies such a fact that said judgment result is not suitable for said operation information (column 3, lines 16-67; column 4-5; column 9, lines 43-64).

13. As per claim 8, Modi teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 7 described above. Modi further teaches said control unit operates said automated teller apparatus based upon said money sort information of the operation information, when it is so judged that said money sort information of said acquired cassette and information is made coincident with

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said money sort information of the previously stored operation information (column 3, lines 16-67; column 4-5; column 9, lines 43-64).

14. As per claim 9, Modi teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 7 described above. Modi further teaches wherein: said automated teller machine is further comprised of:

a staff member panel for displaying thereon, which is operated by a staff member (panel (Fig. 1; column 9 lines 1-19; column 18, lines 55-66); and when it is so judged that said money sort information of said acquired cassette information is not made coincident with said money sort information of the previously stored operation information, said control unit displays said a fact of noncoincidence on said staff member panel (Fig. 1; column 9 lines 1-19; column 18, lines 55-66).

15. As per claim 10, Modi and Hain et al teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 1 described above. Modi teaches wherein:

said stored operation information contains sort information of said cassette, which indicates as to whether or not said cassette exclusively stores therein a currency deposited from said currency deposit/withdraw port, whether or not said cassette exclusively stores therein a currency withdrawn from said currency deposit/withdraw port, or whether or not said cassette stores therein currencies which are deposited and withdrawn from said currency deposit/withdraw port information (column 3, lines 16-67; column 4-5; column 9, lines 43-64); and

said control unit acquires such information corresponding to said sort information of said cassette, which is contained in said stored operation information, from into said automated teller

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machine ; and also judges as to whether or not the operation is properly carried out based upon said acquired information (column 3, lines 16-67; column 4-5; column 9, lines 43-64).

16. As per claim 11, Modi teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 1 described above. Modi further teaches said stored operation information contains information related to a country which issues a currency (column 2, lines 28-41); and said control unit acquires such information corresponding to the country information of said stored operation information from said cassette set to said automated teller machine, and judges as to whether or not the operation is suitable based upon the acquired information (column 3-5).

17. As per claim 13, Modi teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 1 described above. Modi further teaches wherein: said control unit continuously monitors, or monitors in a constant time interval the information related to said cassette set to said automated teller machine (columns 3-5).

As per claim 14, claim 14 is equivalent to claim 1. Please refer to claim 1 rejection above.

18. As per claim 15, Modi and Hain et al teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 14 described above. Modi teaches either said main body control unit or said control unit of the currency deposit/withdraw mechanism continuously monitors, or monitors in a constant time interval mounting/dismounting of said cassettes (columns 3-5); which are set to said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism (abstract; column 1, lines 18-19; column 2, lines 9-16; columns 3-5)

19. As per claim 16, Modi teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 15 described above. Modi further teaches wherein: in the case that either said main body control

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unit or said control unit of the currency deposit/withdraw mechanism monitors to sense that said cassettes are again reset, said main body control unit again transmitted from said control unit, and also judges as to whether or not said acquired cassette information is suitable for said stored operation information of the automated teller machine (columns 3-5).

20. As per claim 17, Modi teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 14 described above. Modi further teaches wherein:

said main body control unit acquires money sort information contained in said cassette information transmitted from said control unit and also judges as to whether or not said acquired money sort information is suitable for said stored operation information (columns 3-5).

21. As per claim 18, Modi teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 17 described above. Modi further teaches wherein: in the case that said main body control unit judges that said acquired money sort information is suitable for said operation information, said main body control unit executes the operation of said automated teller machine based upon said operation information (columns 1-5); and in the case that said main body control unit judges that said acquired money sort information is not suitable for said operation information, said main body control unit notifies such a fact that said acquired memory sort information is not suitable for said operation information (column 4).

22. As per claim 19, Modi teaches an automated teller machine as claimed in claim 14 described above. Modi further teaches wherein: said control unit of said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism acquires said operation information stored in said main body control unit, and judges as to whether or not said acquired operation information is suitable for said cassette information (column 4, lines 31-45).

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23. As per claim 20, Modi teaches a centralized managing system comprising a plurality of automated teller machines; and a center apparatus for connecting said plurality of automated teller machines via a network to each other, wherein:

said center apparatus acquires and manages both information indicative of a currency range which should be handled by each of said plural automated teller machines, also information indicative of an amount of currencies which are stored in cassettes set to said plural automated teller machines (see column 3, lines 45-67; column 4, lines 31-67).

Response to Arguments

24. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

25. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marissa Liu whose telephone number is 571-270-1370. The examiner can normally be reached on IFP.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander G. Kalinowski can be reached on 571-272-6711. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



HANI M. KAZIMI
PRIMARY EXAMINER